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## W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N W O R K

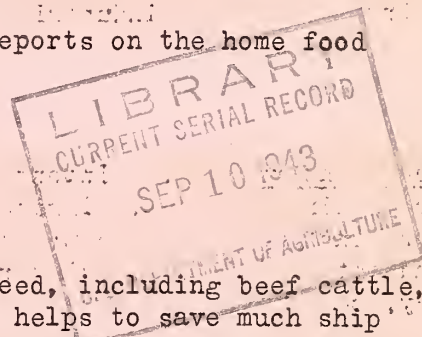
### SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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Of especial significance in this week's summary are reports on the home food supply program, farm labor, and the feed situation.

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HAWAII  
July 15, 1943



Production.— Hawaii's total production of food and feed, including beef cattle, dairy and poultry products, now highest on record and helps to save much ship space for vital war material from mainland. Nearly 8,000 acres of land now used in production of fruits and vegetables for food and field crops for feed, not including pasture lands or sugarcane and pineapple areas. Much of this acreage produces two or three crops of vegetables a year. Plantations have cooperated fully in emergency production program. While producing such important war crops as sugar and pineapples, they also contributed land, labor, equipment, and scientific knowledge for raising other essential crops. Hawaii is far from being self-sufficient but is much more so now than before Pearl Harbor.

Soil conservation.— Program of soil conservation involves 550 acres of land and 17 cooperatives. Work completed on four ranches includes topographical survey, contour and terraces, run-off ditches. Survey is especially important because land is in uplands where year-round vegetable growing is planned for first time.

Home food supply.— Main part of all home-economics programs for this year and next devoted to phases of nutrition and health, including home food production, food preservation and preparation. Territory's allotment of pressure cookers will be distributed through Extension to families and groups that wish to preserve nonacid foods. Majority of cookers probably will be used in Kona districts on Hawaii and on Molokai, where families do not have water for year-round fruit and vegetable production. Preservation of seasonal fruits such as guavas and mangoes especially urged because they do not require pressure cooker and have higher vitamin C content than oranges. Honolulu OCD plans to distribute mangoes through neighborhood groups to save pasture and tires. Many meetings held in South Oahu County to teach club members to can mangoes.

Banana production on upward trend. Severe damage was done in banana and papaya areas by heavy windstorm a few months ago, and much replanting had to be done. These fruits are especially needed because of restricted shipping space for fruits from mainland.

On Molokai, extension clubs hold all-day canning meetings to preserve garden vegetables and fruits while they are plentiful. Kauai home agents teaching club members to utilize dried egg powder in various ways, as this is now available in Islands and fresh eggs are not always plentiful. Other agents emphasizing use of brown rice.

Feeds.- Recent arrivals of poultry and livestock feeds have brought Territory's supply up to normal. Additional receipts of linseed meal from Australia places dairy and poultry industries in better position than for some months.

LOUISIANA  
August 1, 1943

Feed conservation.- Intensive efforts made to conserve feedstuffs, in view of prevailing shortage. Through widespread newspaper and radio publicity, farmers were instructed how to produce their own feed. They were urged to produce corn and oats on farm with clovers, lespedeza, and Allyce clover for grazing and cured hay, so they would not need to purchase feed concentrates at any time.

Home canning.- Record volume of over 13,000,000 containers of fruits, vegetables, and meats canned last year by Louisiana housewives, is expected to be surpassed by expanded home and Victory Garden program this summer. Last year's totals included 13,306,002 containers of canned foods, 1,945,567 pounds meat cured, 578,863 pounds vegetables and fruit dried.

Dehydration plants.- Additional plants for dehydration of sweetpotatoes brought total number to four in State. These will preserve some of 6,000,000 bushels of sweetpotatoes Louisiana will produce this year. U. S. Army has contracted for 52,000,000 pounds of dried product for forces at home and abroad.

Commodity crops.- Bumper crops of cotton, rice, and sugarcane will require 100,000 harvesters this fall. Campaign initiated by extension workers to recruit helpers from all walks of life in State. Potential harvest hands among war prisoners held to be inadequate for Louisiana requirements.

Nutrition.- Nutrition laboratories of University found that strawberries, most important fruit crop of Louisiana, equal oranges as source of ascorbic acid, essential in preventing malnutrition; also that turnip greens have twice as much nutritive value as spinach, especially if pot liquor is served with them. Findings publicized throughout State through Extension nutrition specialist.

Corn for feed.- Emphasis given seed production of double-cross hybrid corn. During season 175 acres planted with new and approved varieties, tested by experiment station; distribution channeled through Extension Service. Planting this year increased 300 percent over 1942, and will produce 3,000 bushels for planting at least 3,000 acres of hybrid corn in 1944. On basis of average increase over regular varieties, this will increase corn production in Louisiana by 300,000 bushels in 1944.

Milk transportation.- Total reduction of 24.7 percent in mileage traveled by trucks in transporting milk to New Orleans milkshed was obtained by rearranging routes. Savings of gasoline, wear and tear of tires, as well as time of farm operators were effected by change; also monetary saving of \$83.40 a day, or \$30,441 a year. Since revenues were unaffected, this constitutes important savings to truck operators.



MONTANA

August 1, 1943

Farm labor.- Sufficient labor obtained to complete sugar beet thinning and hoeing with only minor loss of seeded acreage, in spite of extremely wet, cold spring. Sources of labor were local help, including many boys and girls; number of experienced seasonal beet workers who come every year; and 1,330 Mexicans brought in by FSA under contract with sugar beet processors. Same sources were used for hoeing most of State's largest bean acreage on record. Haying now is greatest labor problem, and additional 1,000 or more workers from outside could be used to advantage immediately.

Majority of Mexican laborers have been held in State. Those that can be spared from sugar beet harvest are being shifted to other areas for general farm work, haying, and canning pea harvest. This is experiment but provides some relief. Somewhat larger percentage of U. S. Mexicans induced to remain in State through year, mostly for pea harvest but to some extent for general farm work.

At least 1,500 out-of-State workers will have to be obtained for sugar-beet harvest. Practically all available men, women, and youths from most of States' larger cities have been mobilized and now are working on farms. Possibly, before season is over, stores in many towns will have to be closed for at least part of each day, and opening of schools be delayed in fall, if crops are to be harvested.

To date, grain prospects indicate heavy crop, which will require more harvest labor than is now in State. This is most serious labor problem of year. To save crop, at least 200 combines from outside State will be needed to do custom work. Present indications are that combine crews will be paid \$3 to \$4 an acre.

Production goals.- State staff members spent much time in July assembling, analyzing, and adjusting figures on production estimates as basis for production goals in 1944. Specialists cooperated with representatives of other agencies in preparing material. They then attended meetings in all counties for complete discussion of production capacity of each area. Meetings were attended locally by agricultural planning committees, AAA committeemen, USDA War Boards, and others interested in agricultural production. After each meeting, group adjusted figures in preparation for State report to be submitted to Washington.

NORTH DAKOTA

July 24, 1943

Farm labor.- Organization functioning in all counties. Orders for harvest labor now under way. Placements far behind, emphasizing extreme shortage of manpower. Cass County farmers, for example, need 2,441 additional workers -- greatest number required by any county.

State-wide drive to mobilize all available manpower for harvest launched July 12. Response from townspeople excellent. Reports from counties indicate virtually every schoolboy old enough for farm work will be employed. More than 12,000 students signed up for work earlier in season. Many girls and women working or ready to work part time in harvest. Splendid cooperation in mobilization campaign given by commercial and civic organizations. More than 400 volunteer labor agents in key points aiding in recruitment and placement of labor.

Heavy grain harvest work begins by August 1. Organization all set to serve farms to fullest possible extent. Manpower for farms, however, is extremely limited. Only few transient laborers have appeared. Counties now completing detailed survey to determine need for custom combine harvesting work. Data include acreage to be combined, amount of extra combining farmers who have machines can render, and labor needs. Information on acreage available for custom combining being assembled for combine operators to permit most efficient use of equipment and labor. Operators obtain this information at county agent office when entering county. Steps to permit free movement of combine operators into and through State encouraged successfully by Extension.

Labor-saving equipment.-- Continued encouragement of building of labor-saving machines and cooperative use of equipment and labor showing results. Wide adoption of sweep rakes for haying and harvesting has greatly increased efficiency of remaining farm labor. Blueprint plans for constructing equipment available in every county office, and more than 1,700 distributed direct to farms. Labor-saving equipment and devices described in new practical farm circular published by Extension for wide distribution.

Home food supply.-- Recent weeks devoted to intensive educational work on gardens, to prevent losses due to insects, diseases, and poor management. Particular stress placed on insect control. For protection of Victory Gardens in grass-hopper areas, bait has been prepared and made available to gardeners. Wide distribution made of garden information through press, radio, and circulars.

Series of local meetings throughout State on food preservation problems completed in July. Meetings conducted by Extension in cooperation with Civilian Defense Councils, FSA, and other agencies. Neighborhood leaders used effectively. Published material on methods of food preservation distributed in large quantity by various means. Effective way to give information on freezing foods was placing of literature in every freezer locker.

Livestock.-- Meeting on prevention of disease, control of parasites, and feeding for production, completed throughout State. Work done with other agencies was effective in bringing to livestock producers vital information on increasing meat and dairy production. Publicity stressed worm control in sheep; mites and lice on livestock and poultry. Two new circulars prepared and distributed generally -- one on sheep disease and parasite control, and other on pork production.

Dairy production receiving increased attention, to insure maintenance of high output through summer when milk yields normally decline. Information issued on feeding and management to maintain yields. Improvement of pastures, feeding of grain, and preservation of feed crops in silage form being pushed. Special publicity this season on preservation of all possible feed crops for livestock use. Most emphasis on hay conservation, as crop is abundant and livestock numbers are at high levels. Difficulty in obtaining labor and equipment handicapping haying operations.

Sheep-shearing schools in cooperation with vocational agriculture departments trained 407 shearers. Most persons trained were small flock owners who, after shearing their own sheep, were available to neighbors for shearing. Scarcity of trained shearers was lessened materially by this program.